



# New Jersey Department of Human Services Office of Children's Services

## FAITH-BASED PARTNERSHIPS

**“Faith-Based Organizations Do Important Work In Our Communities.  
We Must Partner With Them To Improve The Lives Of  
Children And Families In New Jersey.”**

**James M. Davy, Commissioner**

**H**OPE has come out of the adversity faced by New Jersey's child welfare system. Out of crisis has come a new beginning, a new child welfare reform plan with a strong commitment to protect children and strengthen families.

**H**ELP is our request to the faith-based community of New Jersey. We need the help of every part of every community to make our child welfare system succeed including the support and participation of churches, temples, synagogues, mosques and other faith based organizations.

**H**EALING of our children and families begins and is sustained as we work in partnership to create a child welfare system that is the best in the nation. Working together, we can make a difference.

### AREAS OF PARTICIPATION FOR FAITH-BASED PARTNERSHIPS:

- ✓ **CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE: 1-877 NJ ABUSE** Reporting child abuse is everybody's responsibility. We have implemented a centralized, state-wide 24/7 toll free telephone hotline. Faith-based leaders and members of their congregations are key members of New Jersey's child protection efforts as reporters of allegations of abuse and neglect. Make the call, help a child.
- ✓ **RECRUITMENT OF 1000 RESOURCE FAMILIES** Resource Families are Foster Families, Adoptive Families and Kinship Families. When children cannot live with their own families, whether temporarily or permanently, they need to be with families that are loving, stable and safe. We need the help of the faith communities of New Jersey to identify families that will open their hearts and their homes to children in need.
- ✓ **COMMUNITY PREVENTION SERVICES** A significant element of New Jersey's child welfare reform is the development of prevention services. Faith-based organizations will be essential participants in the development of these networks of community supports that will strengthen families and prevent child abuse and neglect before it happens.

For more information log on to [www.dhs.state.nj.us](http://www.dhs.state.nj.us) or contact  
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